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Letter dated 24 April 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to convey herewith a letter from H.E. Hoshyar Zebari, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, concerning the conclusion of the mandate of the United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission and the International Atomic Energy Agency Iraq Action Team (see annex). I have further the honour to request that the letter and its annex be circulated to the members of the Security Council and distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) T. Hamid **Al Bayati**
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative

07-32193 (E) 270407 300407

Annex to the letter dated 24 April 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

[Original: Arabic]

I have the honour to address the present letter to you, and through you to the other members of the Security Council, requesting on behalf of the Government of Iraq, that the Council consider terminating the mandates of the United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission (UNMOVIC) and the Iraq Action Team of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) established by the Security Council resolutions on the elimination and removal of former Iraqi weapons of mass destruction, as there are no longer any legal or technical grounds for continuing their mandate and we are certain that Iraq currently has none of the programmes or weapons in question. In this connection, please note the following:

1. Today Iraq has a democratically elected Government and a new Parliament in addition to a Constitution that has been approved by the Iraqis. Today it declares that it is joining the global democratic community in its support for the international non-proliferation regime.

2. Article 9 (e) of the Permanent Constitution of the Government of Iraq states that: "The Iraqi Government shall respect and implement Iraq's international obligations regarding the non-proliferation, non-development, non-production and non-utilization of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, and shall prohibit associated equipment, materiel, technologies and communication systems for use in the development, manufacture, production and utilization of such weapons". This Constitution was approved by the Iraqi people in the national referendum held in 2005.

3. As Security Council members know, the Iraqi Government has cooperated fully with the Iraq Survey Group (ISG) in respect of the former regime's weapons programme.

4. Today the Iraqi Government affirms its full commitment to the relevant Security Council resolutions and, in that connection, reiterates the request that it made to the President of the Council in March 2005, as well as the letter from the Iraqi Prime Minister of 11 November 2006 calling for the termination of the mandates of UNMOVIC and the IAEA Iraq Action Team.

5. The Iraqi Government reiterates its commitment to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, the safeguards agreement of the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Biological Weapons Convention and the 1925 Geneva Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare. The provisional Iraqi Government announced previously in July 2004 its commitment to all the agreements and conventions on the prevention of proliferation. The Iraqi technical authorities have elaborated a draft law on Iraq's accession to the Chemical Weapons Convention, which is currently before the Parliament — the country's legislative branch — with a view to its adoption and preparations are under way for accession to the Model Additional Protocol of the International Atomic Energy Agency's safeguards regime.

6. With regard to coordination with IAEA on a code of conduct on the safety and security of radioactive sources in Iraq, Iraq has set up an agency responsible for identifying radioactive sources in Iraq and guaranteeing their security, namely, the Iraqi Radioactive Sources Regulatory Authority. Since the fall of the previous regime, IAEA has made four successful verification visits to the Tuwaitha site — in June 2003, August 2004, September 2005 and, most recently, in November 2006.

7. The Iraqi National Monitoring Directorate is overseeing the transfer of dual-use substances and is now making every effort to harmonize Iraqi export legislation with international standards. Iraq has submitted its national report in accordance with its obligations under Security Council resolution 1540 (2004).

8. The Iraqi Government has undertaken to guarantee the security of its borders by strengthening controls in cooperation with the multinational force.

The Government and people of my country hope that the Security Council will make a serious and objective assessment of the situation in Iraq — namely, the absence of weapons of mass destruction and related programmes — and take the appropriate decision to terminate the mandate of UNMOVIC and the IAEA Iraq Action Team and transfer the balance in the Iraq account opened by the United Nations to the Development Fund for Iraq, for the purposes of investment.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter circulated to the members of the Security Council as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Hoshyar **Zebari**
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq